

Name: **Geophrey Sikei**
Nationality: Kenyan
Qualifications:

- MSc Agricultural and Applied Economics, Egerton University, 2008
- BSc Natural Resource Management, Moi University, 2005
- Kakamega High School, KSCE, B plain (74 points), 1999
- St. Peter's Mumias Boys Primary (A Minus), 1996

Selected country experience: Kenya, Rwanda, DRC, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Malawi, Ethiopia, Liberia
Languages: English, Kiswahili

Key qualifications

Geophrey Sikei graduated with a MSc. in Agricultural and Applied Economics from Egerton University in 2010, and whose part of the training was undertaken at the University of Pretoria, South Africa. I am currently an impact evaluation analyst with Land O'Lakes Inc, implementing USAID funded programs in Africa and Asia. I am also a Research Associate with the Environment for Development (EfD-K). Prior to this position, I have served as Junior Research Fellow with EfD-K under the Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA). In the course of my career, I have gained considerable research and policy analysis experience in food security, agricultural productivity, governance, climate change and natural resource management.

In research, I have focused more on linking exploitation of natural resources to food security and stability in the region, and the movement of agricultural products within the region and how this impact on food security. I have undertaken many research activities addressing livelihood and Renewable Energy issues key among them being ;Powering African Agriculture (PAA) study meant to assess the potential for geothermal energy in Kenya, funded by USAID Kenya; Green Economy Scoping Study (GESS) under KIPPRA aimed at assessing the state and how to transit the country towards green economy; developing an Action Plan for the implementation of the National Climate Change Response Strategy (NCCRS) in Kenya, by Ministry of Environment and Mineral Resources (MEMR); the assessment of agricultural sector policies and climate change in Kenya, the nexus between climate change related policies, research and practice commissioned by United Nation Commission for Africa (UNECA) through KIPPRA; improving rural infrastructure to raise competitiveness of Africa's agricultural sector and access to regional markets, funded by the African Union Commission; contributing author in the African Agriculture Status Report 2012, being developed by Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA); the analysis of climate change, food security and agriculture interaction in the COMESA region, a study commissioned by the Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (ReSAKSS)/ILRI; strengthening resilience of smallholder farmers to food security in the Arid and Semi-Arid districts of Eastern Kenya commissioned by AUSAID (Australian Agency for International Development) through Action Aid International Kenya; Performance of the Kenya Maize Development Programme (KMDP) for farmers in Makueni, Siaya, Bungoma West, Trans Nzoia, Uasin Gishu and Nakuru districts; an analysis of cross border trade in agricultural products along selected corridors of the Nile Basin Region; an assessment of appropriateness of local conditions, uptake, replicability potential and profitability of agricultural technologies transferred under the Mount Kenya East Pilot Programme (MKEPP) livelihood programme; mapping the institutional-policy environment and issues affecting small-scale farmers in Kenya and options for enhancing productivity and food security; and an analysis of the supply and demand trends for major tradable agricultural commodities within COMESA region.

I have published my research in several publication outlets including journals, book chapters and discussion paper series. Besides, I have undertaken consultancies for a number of local and

international organisations such as International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), World-wide Fund for Nature (WWF), Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), United Nation Commission for Africa (UNECA), National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA), Action Aid International, Commissioned by Consumer Utility and Trust Society (CUTS), the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), ACDI/VOCA among others. In addition, I have travelled widely over the world and maintain good contacts with both local and international partners.

Relevant assignments

2013

Powering African Agriculture (PAA)

- The Powering African Agriculture (PAA) will contribute to USAID Feed the Future (FTF) and Global Climate Change (GCC) objectives by helping to identify, commercialize and bring to scale innovative clean energy solutions for cutting-edge agricultural applications in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) with initial activities to be launched in Kenya in cooperation with the Kenya Geothermal Development Company (GDC). These solutions are expected to provide communities and farmers with clean energy inputs required for increased yield, decreased post-harvest loss, and food price stabilization, while simultaneously decoupling the agriculture/fossil fuel linkage and increasing commercial viability of energy service providers. It is hoped that these actions will result in further investment in low carbon economic growth.

Assessment of Agricultural Sector Policies and Climate Change in Kenya: the Nexus between Climate Change Related Policies, Research and Practice

- The objective of the study is to determine the extent to which the agricultural sector policy in Kenya integrates with climate related agricultural research to influence agricultural practices in Kenya. The assessment also focuses on the effectiveness of the policy to mobilize resources both domestic as well as resources available under various international climate financing initiatives. Commissioned by United Nation Commission for Africa (UNECA) through the Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA).

Africa Agriculture Status Report, 2012

- AGRA, in collaboration with other partners, decided to put together a publication highlighting the status of agriculture in SSA with emphasis on the countries that AGRA has operations in. The purpose of the publication is to provide a single synthesis of current status and trends of African agriculture to agriculture development practitioners, National and International Organisations, NGOs and other stakeholders. Commissioned by Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA).

Improving Rural Infrastructures to Raise Competitiveness of Africa's Agricultural Sector and to Access Regional Markets

- The objective of the study is to review available country data and information provided by Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and other sources with a view to identifying existing gaps in rural infrastructures that will help formulate policy recommendations on infrastructural development and market access within the framework of CAADP Pillar II which focuses on improving rural infrastructures and trade-related capacities for market access. Commissioned by African Union Commission.

2012

Analysis of Climate Change, Food Security and Agriculture interaction in the COMESA region.

Commissioned by Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (ReSAKSS)/ILRI.

- This project focussed on reviewing all the studies that have been done in the COMESA region on food security, agriculture and climate change. The aim was to inform the on-going policy debates on how to tackle the twin problems of food insecurity and climate change. The report has been submitted to ReSAKSS for review and comments.

Green Economy Scoping Study

- The objective of this assignment was to undertake a countrywide assessment/stock-take of green economy initiatives in Kenya in preparation for the government's efforts to move the country towards green economy. Commissioned by KIPPRA.

Development of the Action Plan for the implementation of the National Climate Change Response Strategy

- Involved in designing the finance mechanism for Kenya to benefit from climate change funds. Commissioned by Ministry of Environment and Mineral Resources (MEMR).

2011/12

Baseline survey on strengthening Resilience of Smallholder farmers to Food security in the Arid and Semi-Arid Districts of Eastern Kenya by Action Aid International Kenya (completed)

This project aimed to strengthen the resilience of smallholder farmers' livelihoods to drought and climate change, and had four key objectives:

- Increasing food availability through increased productivity and diversified income streams among male and female small-holder farmers
- Building strong and vibrant farming communities that are able to collectively bargain and influence food related policy and practice of the state
- Creating linkages between small-holder farmers with networks or civil society groups at district, national and international level so they have a stronger and more informed base from which to claim their food related rights
- Conducting critical analysis of laws, policies or strategies at the national, regional or international level that impede food security and evidence-based advocacy for improved agriculture policies and practices

2011

Baseline survey on performance of Kenya Maize Development Programme (KMDP) on Target Populations: Covering Makueni, Siaya, Bungoma West, Trans Nzoia, Uasin Gishu and Nakuru districts by ACDI/VOCA (USAID Funded)- completed.

This project had the following objectives which were addressed in the study;

- Increase productivity,
- Increased trade and market access,
- Increased access to business development services and,
- Increased effectiveness of producer organizations.

Analysis of cross border trade in agricultural products along selected corridors of the Nile Basin Region (Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, DRC) by the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI).

- We analysed the flow of agricultural products from one country to the other along the border points and the implications of this to national food security.

Baseline Survey on Assessment of Appropriateness of Local Conditions, Uptake, Replicability Potential and Profitability of Agricultural Technologies Transferred under the MKEPP Livelihood Programme

- This study entailed the assessment of appropriateness of the different technologies
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transferred to the project areas and based on a cost-benefit analysis suggested which technologies were most profitable in terms of livelihood improvement hence the need to improve them.

2010

Mapping the institutional-policy environment and issues affecting small-scale farmers in Kenya and options for enhancing productivity and food security; research and advocacy agenda for promoting productivity and market access by smallholder farmers in Kenya” by Consumer Utility and Trust Society (CUTS)

- In this study, I looked at the issues affecting smallholder farmers’ productivity and food security with a focus on institutional and policy oriented factors.

Selected publications

Discussion paper series

Sikei, G., Ogada J. M and Nyangena, W (*in press*). The New Forest Management Regime in Kenya: Effects on Household Farm Forestry Decisions in Kakamega. (*Book Chapter in upcoming book on Land reforms in Africa*).

Sikei, G., Owuor, B and Colin Poulton (2009) The Role and Performance of the Ministry of Agriculture in Rachuonyo District. *Future Agricultures Consortium (FAC) Research Paper No. 005, October 2009*. Available on www.future-agricultures.org

Olwande, John; **Sikei, Geophrey**; Mathenge, Mary. (2009) Agricultural Technology Adoption: A Panel Analysis of Smallholder Farmers’ Fertilizer use in Kenya. *CEGA Working Paper Series No. AfD-0908*. Center of Evaluation for Global Action. University of California, Berkeley.

Conference and Peer Reviewed Proceedings;

Sikei, G., Mburu, J., and Odhiambo, M.O (2009) Labour Allocation Patterns of Rural Households to Agriculture and Forest Activities in Kakamega District, Western Kenya. Poster Paper presented at the IAAE’s XXVII International Conference for Agricultural Economists, in August 2009, Beijing, China.

Sikei, G., Mburu, J. and Lagat, J. (2009) “Rural households Response to Fuelwood Scarcity around Kakamega Forest, Western Kenya” Paper presented at the 5th Bi-annual Conference of the United States Society for Ecological Economics (USSEE) at the American University, Washington DC, May 31st to June 3rd 2009.

Olwande J., **Sikei, G.**, M. Mathenge (2010) “Agricultural Technology Adoption: A Panel Analysis of Smallholder Farmers’ Fertilizer use in Kenya” Paper presented at the African Economic Research Consortium (AERC) Conference on Agriculture for Development in Sub-Saharan Africa, Mombasa Kenya, May 28th – 29th 2009 (*Best paper: recommended for a special issue of the African Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics (AfJARE)*).

Sikei, G and W. Oluoch-Kosura (2009). Agricultural Production and Forest Clearing: The Role of Farming in the Development of Tropical Forests in Kenya. Background Paper presented at the World Congress Agro-forestry, August 23-28, 2009, Nairobi

Sikei, G and W. Oluoch-Kosura (2009). ‘Sources of undiffused risk amongst African Farmers: Coping strategies, private sector innovations and PPP arrangements’, Paper for the Agricultural Risk, Vulnerability and Coping Mechanisms for Farmers; Convening Conference for Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation , February 2009, Seattle, Washington DC

Sikei, G and W. Oluoch-Kosura (2009). *'Institutional innovations for smallholder farmers competitiveness in Africa.'* Background paper presented at the World Development Report of 2008 Conference on Agriculture for Development, May 2008, Mombasa, Kenya

Musyoka, P.M and **Sikei, G.**, (2008) Linking Environmental Conservation, Labour Hoarding and Output Markets in Kenya: The Case of Western Kenya; Paper presented at the African Economic Research Consortium's International Conference on Natural Resource Management and Climate Change in Africa, Intercontinental Hotel, Nairobi, September 2008

Refereed Journal Articles;

Sikei, G., Mburu, J. and Lagat, J. (2008) 'Household labour allocation to forest extraction and other activities in areas adjacent to tropical forests: the case of Kakamega forest, Western Kenya', *Int. J. Environment, Workplace and Employment*, Vol. 4, No. 1, pp.32–44.

Published Book Chapter

'Forest Management Decentralization in Kenya: Effects on Household Farm Forestry in Kakamega' *Maurice Juma Ogada, Wilfred Nyangena, and Geophrey Sikei* in the book *Land Tenure Reforms in Asia and Africa: assessing impacts on poverty and natural resource management*, by Palgrave Publishers in 2013: edited by Stein Holden, Keijiro Otsuka and Klaus Deininger.

Others

Contributing author in the development of the;

- State of Environment (SoE) Report 2010 - 2 chapters on Land, Agriculture and Livestock; and Policy options and actions chapter. Published by UNEP and NEMA in 2011.
- State of Environment (SoE) Report 2011 – chapter on Climate Change and Variability (on-going)

Membership to professional associatio

Member of the International Association of Agricultural Economists (IAAE)

Member of the African Association of Agricultural Economists (AAAE)

Member of the European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (EAERE)

Member of the International Society for Ecological Economics (ISEE)

Referees

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